



14-foot python on the loose in Redding after evacuation

PAGE 4A

Record Searchlight

MONDAY, JULY 30, 2018 ■ REDDING.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

CARR FIRE: 'WE'RE FEELING A LOT MORE OPTIMISTIC'



Whole blocks of the River Ridge neighborhood were decimated. On Sunday, Redding Electric Utility crews were working to isolate burned homes from the grid and restore power to the area. PHOTOS BY HUNG T. VU/SPECIAL TO THE RECORD SEARCHLIGHT

NO LONGER 'DEFENSIVE'

No fire movement in Redding; residents could return soon

Damon Arthur, Sam Gross, Benjamin Spillman and Amber Sandhu
Redding Record Searchlight | USA TODAY NETWORK

Despite discovering another Carr Fire fatality, firefighting officials were mostly upbeat about progress they made on the blaze Sunday, with "no movement" of the fire in the city of Redding.

"I can tell you we are making great strides every day," said Carr Fire incident commander Bret Gouvea. "We are very encouraged with the fire status in the city of Redding," he said, noting there was no fire movement there on Sunday.

He did not give a definite date, but officials said some residents might soon

get to return to their homes.

"We're feeling a lot more optimistic today as we are starting to gain some ground rather than be in the defensive mode all the time on this fire," Gouvea said. "You're going to see repopulation in the city of Redding very soon."

While the fire was not moving as fast as it was last week, it did continue to grow in some remote areas, he said. Still, from Saturday to Sunday, the fire grew only 6 percent, compared with doubling in size on Friday.

See FIRE, Page 5A



As of Sunday, the Carr Fire was at 89,194 acres, with 5 percent containment and 517 buildings destroyed. Another 5,012 buildings were still threatened by fire.

'We just had to get out': Evacuees worry, wait

Alayna Shulman
Redding Record Searchlight
USA TODAY NETWORK

In a hazy city manned by armored cars from the National Guard, the best distraction La Rue and Robert Fisher could find for their 8-year-old granddaughter Payton Sunday afternoon was a map of the fire that's forced them all out of their homes.

It wasn't ideal, but the Fishers were just looking for any alternative to sitting around and worrying when they came across the Carr Fire map someone propped up on an easel in a gravel lot on north Redding's Lake Boulevard.

"We just had to get out," Robert Fisher said. "You gotta get out and do some-



La Rue, from left, Payton and Robert Fisher stand in front of a map of the Carr Fire on Sunday. They evacuated Thursday night and have been trying to find out more about their home.

ALAYNA SHULMAN/RECORD SEARCHLIGHT

As thousands flee, shelters offer space

Staff Reports Redding Record Searchlight | USA TODAY NETWORK

Thousands of people have been evacuated due to the Carr Fire, which had grown to 89,000 acres by Sunday morning. Most of the Redding hotels are fully booked, but in and around Redding, multiple shelters are open for people and pets so they can find shelter and stay safe during the fire.

Evacuated areas

According to the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection, the following areas have been evacuated:

- Community of French Gulch
- Highway 299 west of Trinity Mountain Road to the base of Buckhorn Summit
- Whiskey Creek Road to include the boat launch/day use areas

- South along Swasey Drive from Highway 299 to Placer Road
- West along Placer Road from Swasey Drive to Prospect Drive
- North from Prospect Drive to encompass Middle Park Ranch Land Area
- West of Overhill Drive and north of Highway 299

See SHELTERS, Page 4A

See EVACUEES, Page 2A

Good morning!

William
McGraw

 **USA TODAY**

Tariffs' effect on America's soybean fields could be

the key to which party wins the midterm elections. 3A

Weather

High 101° ■ Low 72°

Hazy. Forecast, 8A

Volume 170 | No. 139

Home delivery pricing inside

Subscribe 844-900-7107

©2018

Daily \$1.50

7 49377 10090 5